

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on November 1, 2005.

Claims 21, 25, and 28 are amended, claims 27 and 30-32 are canceled, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 7-25, 28, and 33-35 are now pending in this application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 21-25, 27, 28 and 30-32 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Fazan et al. (U.S. Publication No. 2004/0021137A1). Claims 27 and 30-32 have been canceled, rendering this rejection moot with respect to those claims. Independent claims 21, 25, and 28 have been amended and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Independent claim 21 has been amended to include “wherein the fourth voltage is greater than the first voltage”. As recited in claim 21, the first voltage is generated by word line drivers when holding the state of the memory cells, and the fourth voltage is generated on unselected word lines when writing a “1.” Applicants respectfully submit that Fazan does not disclose a greater voltage on unselected wordlines as recited in claim 21 as amended.

Independent claims 25 and 28 have been amended to recite subject matter found to be allowable as described by the Examiner in paragraph 5 of the action. Accordingly, applicants believe claims 25 and 28 are in condition for allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 7-20 and 33-35 are allowed.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney (952-473-8800) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPHEN H TANG ET AL.

By their Representatives,

Customer Number 45445
952-473-8800

Date 12-28-05

By Dana B LeMoine
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 28 day of December, 2005.

Chris Hammond

Name

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Signature